

FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT

# ANNUAL REPORT

on the Sanitary and  
Housing Conditions

*For the Year*

1940

J. TAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FRED S. REASIDE, M.S.T.A., C.O.P., R.S.I.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER *of* HEALTH

*For the year 1940*



*To the Fylde Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I present to you my first Report as your Medical Officer of Health. At the request of the Ministry of Health it is purely of an interim character. As the Council are aware, my period of office dates from 1st April, 1940.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA.—The area of the Fylde Rural District is at present 33,159 statute acres.

POPULATION.—The population as per the census, 1931, was 15,750, and the estimated population (1940), 10,560.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The district is chiefly an agricultural one, but there is a cotton mill situate in Freckleton.

BIRTHS.—According to available figures, there were 106 births during the year belonging to your area, divided as 57 males and 49 females.

DEATHS.—These figures are also obtained from figures supplied by the local registrars. There is seen to be a total of 88 deaths of which 42 were males and 46 females. These were distributed among the various districts.

**AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**—The Ambulance facilities for the district are very good.

(a) For Infectious cases: The Moss Side Isolation Hospital has a Motor Ambulance for conveyance of patients to the Hospital. The Elswick Sanatorium has also a Motor Ambulance for tuberculous patients.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: A Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of necessitous non-infectious and accident cases is hired by the Council when required.

There are privately owned ambulance services in Wesham Blackpool and Preston which provide comfortable transport for those who can afford to pay the cost.

**CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**—A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is provided by the County Council, and is situate in Mellor Road, Kirkham. The Centre is open for consultation and treatment on Thursday of each week, from 2 p.m. till 4 p.m.

**TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.**—Use is made of the Dispensary at Elswick Sanatorium. This is under the care of the Medical Officer of that Institution.

**SCHOOL CLINIC.**—The Medical Inspection of School Children is carried out in all Schools by the School Medical Officer acting under the County Council. One of the advantages of the new scheme is that the Medical Officer of Health for the area is responsible for the School Medical Inspections.

**VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.**—Treatment is given at the Preston Royal Infirmary, under a scheme of the County Council.

**COMMENTS.**—There has again been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year. Regarding causes of sickness or invalidity, there has been nothing noteworthy.

The district is largely agricultural and is on the whole a healthy district. With the exception of mill work, there are no occupations which one could term prejudicial to health. There is no evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults. In millworkers, absence from work in some appears to improve their health, but in others prolonged unemployment appears to induce neurotic ailments.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

**HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.**—There are 3 Hospitals in the district, and one Sanatorium, viz., The Fylde Joint Isolation Hospital, at Moss Side, near Lytham, 64 beds, which is used for Infectious Diseases. This Hospital is used by the following districts :—Fleetwood, Poulton, Thornton, Fylde Rural, Kirkham, Lytham St. Annes, and occasionally by outlying districts.

Patients are not required to contribute towards cost of treatment. The cost of hospital treatment for infectious diseases to the Rural District for the year ending March 31st, 1940, was £257 4s. 10d. and for the year ending March 31st, 1941, £110 4s. 0d.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

There have been no arrangements made by the Local Authority for nursing in the home, but three separate District Nursing Associations operate in the district. Each employs one nurse, and are self-supporting, no financial obligations falling on the district.



## LABORATORY WORK.

The examination of specimens for the detection of the Diphtheria organism has been carried out at the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratory.

Specimens of sputum are sent to Elswick Sanatorium for the detection of the Tubercle bacillus.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ACTS OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.

There have been no new local acts or adoption of any acts during the year.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Apart from 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and 10 of Diphtheria the district was practically free of notifiable infectious diseases.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept within the district at the Union Offices, Wesham, and the Kirkham Police Station and is supplied to medical practitioners when required.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1940,



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)  
DURING THE YEAR 1940.

"NOTIFIABLE" DISEASE.	Total Cases at All Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.											HOSPITAL			
		Under 1.	YEARS.										Total Deaths.	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.	
			1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-35.	35-45.	45-65.				65 and over.
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	7	...	1	...	2	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	14	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia																
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup ... ..	10	1	...	1	1	...	...	3	...	1	1	2	...	...	9	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria contracted abroad ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
In this country ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g.—Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles and German Measles ... ..	66	2	4	2	7	12	9	26	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	7	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ... ..	108	7	5	7	10	17	13	30	5	3	6	2	2	...	15	...

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
5—	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
10—	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15—	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
20—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	2
35—	...	...	2	3	...	...	1	...
45—	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
55—	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	5	5	...	...	1	2

All the cases which died had already been notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations.

Notification of Tuberculosis in the Fylde Rural District is, usually, fairly good, and no action has been necessary with regard to wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

The district is under the care of the Medical Officer of the Elswick Sanatorium. Every week, notifications of Tuberculosis (if any) are sent to the County Council. The Tuberculosis Officer visits each patient with the Medical Attendant, and, where necessary, domiciliary or sanatorium treatment is given. On the occasion of death, or removal to a sanatorium, the dwellings are disinfected.

I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation which is always freely available both from the members of the Council and fellow-officials.

Your obedient Servant,

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.

# The Fylde Rural District Council

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WESHAM.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Fylde Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my fifteenth Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1940.

The following is a Summary of the work carried out during the past year :—

Letters written	...	...	...	...	122
Informal notices	...	...	...	...	33
Statutory notices	...	...	...	...	11
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	1

MILK SUPPLY.—This, on the whole, is good. No milk is imported into the district.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders are carried out by the Fylde Rural Authority.

There are 326 Cowkeepers and 11 Registered Dairywomen or Milksellers.

The approximate number of Cows in the district is 8,560.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The approximate number of houses in your District with a direct supply from the mains of the Fylde Water Board is 2,613. Approximate number of houses supplied from other sources, 174. The district is very favourably situated in this respect.

## SEDIMENT TESTS.

Twelve samples of milk were examined, four of which proved unsatisfactory.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 7 licensed Slaughter-houses in the district.

# INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	—	—	—
Factories without mechanical power ... ..	6	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	—	—

## DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
(1)				
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { insufficient ... .. { unsuitable or defective ... .. { not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	—	—	—	—

## BAKEHOUSES.

There are 9 bakehouses. The sanitary condition of these is satisfactory.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Middens ...	...	...	...	...	1,083
„ Pail Closets ...	...	...	...	...	164
„ Fresh Water Closets ...	...	...	...	...	1,423
„ Waste Water Closets ...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Dry Ashpits ...	...	...	...	...	379
„ Movable Ashbins ...	...	...	...	...	1,263

Six privy middens have been converted to the water carriage system.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Nil.

Byelaws were adopted in 1886.

## REGISTERED FACTORIES.

Number of Factories on the Register at the end of the year, 46.

## NEW HOUSES, 1940.

9

## DISINFECTION.

The number of houses disinfected total 39. The rooms are all sealed, and bedding, etc., is hung up in the room and left for 8 hours ; then all washable articles are soaked for a further 24 hours in liquid disinfectant.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

- (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) ... 9
- (i) By the Local Authority ... Nil.
- (ii) By other Local Authorities ... Nil.
- (iii) By other bodies and persons ... 9
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :
- (i) By the Local Authority ... Nil.
- (ii) By other bodies or persons ... Nil.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

FRED S. ROSCOE, M.S.I.A., Cert.R.S.I.  
*Sanitary Inspector.*





